Reduction of Customs Duty on Drugs, Intermediates and Formulations

2295. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of CNEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3877 given in the Rajya Sabha on 21.4.94 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the 1994-95 budget,, customs duty on bulk drugs, intermediates and formulations was re luced;

(b) what are the names of the bulk drugs and formulations where the benefits of customs duty reduction have been passed on to the consumer and what were their prices before the duty reduction;

(c) whether it is a fact that major beneficiaries of duty reduction were-non-scheduled drugs and in none of the cases prices have been reduced: and

(d) whether it is also a fact that all the duty reduction have benefited the producers at the cost of consumers, if so, the steps taken by the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) The details will be collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Increase in air Traffic in Metropolitan Cities

2296. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) how far the increasing traffic in air is fraught with the possibility of aid air collisions particularly in metropolitan cities;

(b) whether, to obiate the aforesaid situation, the Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has recently issued directions that all the private air taxi operators should stagger their private schedule, and if so what are the details in this regard, and

(c) how far the air taxi operators have complied with the directions issued by the DGCA?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Standard separation between aircraft flying on any route is maintained in accordance with the provisions laid down by the International Civil Aviation Organisation to obviate the possibility of mid-air collisions.

(b) and (c) Initial scrutiny of applications for grant of scheduled Air Transport Operators permit has revealed that the schedules filed by the intending operators are likely to cause congestion at certain airports during certain hours. These issues were discussed with the intending operators in a meeting taken by DGA and the concerned operators have been advised to recast their schedules. No revised proposal on schedules has been received so far.

Foreign tourists

2297. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what was the number of tourists who visited Shimla, Kashmir, Darjeeling and Gangtok during the last three years;

(b) what was the number of foreign tourists who visited the country during this period; and

(c) what was the amount of money approximately earned from foreign tourists during this period?